INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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TOKYO 2188

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FROM: TOKYO

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 2188, MARCH 20, 5 PM.

REF: DEPT'S A-565 — CON 4 JAP-US

FOREIGN MINISTRY AGREES TO TEXT OF DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE BUT SUGGESTS THAT " NSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION" BE USED IN PLACE OF "RATIFICATIONS" IN LAST SENTENCE.

CONVENTION WILL BE SIGNED 2:30 PM TOKYO TIME MARCH 22.

FOLLOWING IS ROUGH TRANSLATION PRESS RELEASE WHICH FOREIGN MINISTRY WILL ISSUE IN JAPANESE LANGUAGE:

"THE CONSULAR CONVENTION BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLARIFYING THE DUTIES AND IMMUNITIES OF CONSULS WAS SIGNED ON MARCH 22 AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY BY FOREIGN MINISTER OHIRA AND AMERICAN AMBASSADOR REISCHAUER. THIS CONVENTION WILL COME INTO FORCE WITH THE EXCHANGE OF INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION. THIS IS THE FIRST CONSULAR TREATY WHICH OUR COUNTRY HAS CONCLUDED SINCE THE WAR.

THE DUTIES AND IMMUNITIES OF DIPLOMATIC OFFICERS ARE RATHER CLEAR IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS BUT THE DUTIES AND IMMUNITIES OF CONSULAR OFFICERS HAVE NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED TO THE EXTENT OF THOSE OF DIPLOMATIC OFFICERS. THERE ARE QUITE A NUMBER OF MATTERS WHICH DEPEND UPON THE DOMESTIC LAWS OF THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AND A CONSULAR CONVENTION HAS AS ITS PURPOSE THE CLARIFICATION OF THESE DUTIES AND IMMUNITIES OF CONSULS.

(1)

ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN HAS RECENTLY BECOME MORE AND MORE ACTIVE. OUR COUNTRY AT PRESENT HAS ESTABLISHED SEVEN CONSULATES GENERAL AND TWO CONSULATES IN THE U.S. WHILE THE UNITED STATES HAS ESTABLISHED

CON 4 JAP-US

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-2-2188, MARCH 20, 5 PM. FROM TOKYO

TWO CONSULATES GENERAL AND THREE CONSULATES IN OUR COUNTRY. THE ACTIVITIES OF THESE CONSULAR POSTS CONTRIBUTE GREATLY TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

BY THIS TREATY THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CONSULAR POSTS OF BOTH JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES ARE GIVEN A CLEAR, LEGAL BASIS. IT HAS A GREAT SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ~~FREE~~ FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES."

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